

ABSTRACT

An improved telescoping stun gun comprising a self-contained power source, such as batteries, electrically connected to a voltage step-up circuit that has an output of stepped-up voltage relative to the power source. The power source and step-up circuitry 5 are preferably contained in an ergonomically shaped handle for easy and sure gripping. A first tube section is connected to the handle. One or more additional tube sections are disposed more or less concentrically within the first tube section, the smallest being the innermost tube section. The tube sections are preferably multiple sections of interlocking, concentric, thin-walled, rigid, tapered tubes. The tube sections, if placed 10 end to end, form a tapered shaft, tapering from largest near the handle to smallest at the distal end. The smallest tube section includes one or more probes that are electrically connected to the output of the step-up circuit. The tube sections are configured so that if a centrifugal force, such as the flick of the wrist, or other deployment means is applied, the inner tube sections automatically extend and lock into place by a connection means 15 forming a shaft that extends away from the handle. The probe or probes at the end of the smallest tube section are located at the distal end of the entire shaft and can be used to intimidate, shock, or warn a potential attacker. Conductive strips, energized by the output of the step-up circuit, may be placed along the shaft to prevent an attacker from grabbing and removing the telescoping stun gun of the present invention from the 20 operator.